



Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

June 23, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20544

Dear Commissioner Hundt:

The Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan (AAAAM) is an association of regional agencies that advocates for the needs and concerns of older Michiganians. The AAAAM has a long history of advocating for consumer issues, including telecommunications. We have a special concern for low-income seniors who have limited incomes, are isolated, and at risk of losing their independence. For these individuals, telephone service is a necessity, not a luxury, and that service must be affordable -- both local service and long distance.

It is for this reason that I am writing to support a request submitted by Ameritech, Docket #DA 97-137. That request would allow Ameritech to provide long-distance services in Michigan, thereby offering consumers of all ages another choice of provider, which will hopefully lower prices. The long-distance companies have already received a green light to provide basic local service in Michigan, and we support the introduction of competition in that arena, because it gives consumers more choice.

Please do not delay any further in opening our long distance market to full competition. If there are reasons why you believe a delay is advisable, I would appreciate a letter explaining those reasons.

Sincerely,

Mary M. Ablan
Executive Director

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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**MADONNA
UNIVERSITY**

97-137
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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

36600 SCHOOLCRAFT ROAD
LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48150-1173
(313) 432-5315
FAX (313) 432-5333

June 16, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20544

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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Dear Honorable Reed Hundt:

Full and fair competition in all telecommunications markets is essential to building our economy and is essential to the nonprofit sector, particularly to the educational system. Madonna University in Livonia, Michigan, is a non-profit institution which strongly supports market-based competition where customers have the opportunity to select from the best products, at the best prices, with the best service, from the best providers.

The intent of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was to promote full and fair competition in all telecommunications markets, which will be the key to the delivery of the information superhighway to consumers, businesses, schools and nonprofits. Madonna University requests, therefore, that you move favorably on Ameritech's application (Docket #DA 97-137).

It is our belief that delaying the opening of long distance markets to competition will serve only as a detriment to our economy. For the benefit of U.S. commerce, and thereby, the benefit of U.S. nonprofits, we heartily support Ameritech in its efforts and ask that you approve its application without delay.

Sincerely,

Sister M. Francilene, CSSF
President,

cc: Donald J. Russell, Telecommunications Task Force

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THE DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS
FOUNDERS SOCIETY

June 18, 1997

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20544

Dear Sir:

In the past year much has been said and written about the impact of The Telecommunications Act of 1996. Here in Michigan there has been much discussion about the attempt by Ameritech Michigan to gain access to the long distance market. I know that at this time Ameritech has reapplied for the right to provide long distance service in Michigan. I would like to encourage the FCC to act favorably on that application.

As users of significant amounts of telecommunications service, with limited amounts of budget available, it is in our best interest to see that true, market-based competition in all telecommunications markets is available. After a full year with the Act in effect, we have seen no sign of additional competition or lowering of prices.

I suspect that the major companies will be able to argue the technical points of the existence of open competition for a very long time. The FCC has the ability to bring those discussions to closure by clearly bringing action on applications. I hope that you will do so soon.

Sincerely,



Ross Pfeiffer
Group Director of Development

cc: Mr. Donald J. Russell
Ms. Lisa Hamway

RP/blc

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Norman Skytta
712 Orange Street
Greenville, MI 48838

June 24, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20544

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JUL 14 1997

RE: Docket # DA97-137

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Sir:

This is to urge you and the FCC to move favorably on Ameritech's application to provide long distance service in Michigan.

By your approval, I understand that local consumers would receive the most convenient and economical services for the telephone services involved. Also, by promotion of full and fair competition in the telecommunication market that would be enabled by approval, delivery of the information highway to consumers would move forward the most expeditiously.

Ameritech is our local telephone service company. Our community has been and is well served by them.

I am the treasurer of the United Way of Montcalm County. Ameritech and its employees have been major supporters of our organization. We are interested in the company's welfare because of our long-time favorable experience with them.

Very truly yours,

Norman Skytta

CC: Mr. Donald J. Russell
Telecommunications Task Force
Anti-Trust Division
The U.S. Department of Justice
8205 555 4th Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

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JOHN W. PORTER, Ph.D.

CEO, Urban Education Alliance, Inc., and
President Emeritus, Eastern Michigan University

June 25, 1997

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20544

Dear Mr. Hundt:

I am writing to you to convey our organization's support for full and fair competition in all telecommunications markets. In that regard, I would urge your agency to move favorably on Ameritech's application Docket #DA 97-137.

Clearly, true market-based competition in all telecommunications areas will ensure that the United States will continue to have a state-of-the-art communications infrastructure.

Based upon the experiences documented over the past year that the Telecommunications Act of 1996 has been in effect, this requested action would seem to be most compatible with the intent.

Your action in opening long distance markets to competition will certainly be appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'John W. Porter', is written over a horizontal line. Below the signature, the name 'John W. Porter' is printed in a standard serif font.

pc: Donald J. Russell



600 Lafayette East
Detroit, Michigan 48226-2998

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

June 27, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt
Federal Communications Commissions
1919 M. Street, Northwest
Washington, DC 20544

RE: Docket #97-137

Competition in all telecommunications markets will benefit large corporate customers such as Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. Telecommunications related costs are increasing while pressure to keep expenses down has never been greater. Expanded product and service options will help ensure we get the most value for our communications dollars.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 was intended to provide healthy competition while ensuring all consumers have access to the "information superhighway". True market based competition will spur additional investments in our nation's telecommunications infrastructure and provide a variety of choices for America's increasingly sophisticated consumers, large and small.

I ask that you move expeditiously in opening long distance markets to full competition. Please move favorably and quickly to approve Ameritech's application to provide long distance services in Michigan. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan believes that having additional options in the telecommunications marketplace will benefit all users.

Sincerely,

James Dunleavy
General Director
Information Delivery Services

cc: Mr. Donald J. Russell
Telecommunications Task Force, Anti-Trust Division
The U.S. Department of Justice
8205 555 4th Street NW
Washington, DC 2001

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615 W. Lafayette Blvd.
Detroit, Michigan 48226

JOHN A. TOTORAITIS

Vice President
Information Systems
(313) 222-8730
Fax: (313) 222-8664

June 25, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, Northwest
Washington, DC 20544

Re: Docket #97-137

Competition in all telecommunications markets will benefit large corporate customers such as Detroit Newspapers. Telecommunications related costs are increasing while pressure to keep expenses down has never been greater. Expanded product and service options will help ensure we get the most value for our communications dollars.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 was intended to provide healthy competition while ensuring all consumers have access to the "information superhighway." True market-based competition will spur additional investments in our nation's telecommunications infrastructure and provide a variety of choices for America's increasingly sophisticated consumers, large and small.

I ask that you move expeditiously in opening long distance markets to full competition. Please move favorably and quickly to approve Ameritech's application to provide long distance services in Michigan. Detroit Newspapers believes that having additional options in the telecommunications marketplace will benefit all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'John Totoraitis', written over the printed name.

John Totoraitis

/lt

cc: Mr. Donald J. Russell
Telecommunications Task Force, Anti-Trust Division
The U.S. Department of Justice
8205 555 4th Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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June 25, 1997

IN RE: Docket #DA 97-137

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M.. Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20544

Sir:

The purpose of this letter is to ask you to move favorably on Ameritech's application to provide long distance communication service to their customers in Michigan.

True market-base competition in all telecommunications markets will ensure that the United States continues to have a state-of-the-art communications infrastructure--an asset that is essential to building our economy, and building our economy is essential to the nonprofit sector.

The intent of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was to promote full and fair competition in all telecommunications markets, which will be the key to the delivery of the information superhighway to consumers, businesses, schools, and nonprofits.

As a regional nonprofit organization, we view the health of American consumers, businesses and schools as the key to our operating programs and revenue. We endorse full and fair competition, based on the best products, at the best prices with the best customer service available. We believe Ameritech does all of the above.

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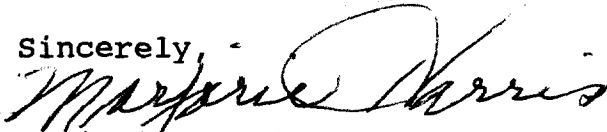
Lewis College of Business

17370 MEYERS ROAD • DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48235 • (313) 862-6300

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Page 2
June 25, 1997

Please do not delay in opening long distance markets to competition, for the benefit of U.S. Commerce, and thereby, the benefit of U.S. nonprofits, as well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marjorie Harris".

Marjorie Harris, Ph.D
President

cc
Mr. Donald J. Russell
Telecommunications Task Force,